Washington County Technology Plan 2004-2006
Annual Review
October 31, 2005

2005 Objectives:

1. The library will teach Computer Basics courses to patrons.
    22 Courses (176 Classes) were taught in English. 101 Students
    successfully completed the course.

    Over 200 students were given some type of instruction over the 1,279
    student-class hours taught over a 12 month period. 80% of English
    students who enrolled in the courses completed them successfully.

2. The library will submit a grant for basic computer training to special needs
    groups:
    The Grant was secured, an instructor was employed, and the program
    initiated successfully.
    17 Courses (136 Classes) were taught in Spanish. 71 Students
    successfully completed the course.

3. The library will add volunteers to the teaching staff for application/database
    classes.
    Steve Swapp was added to the staff to conduct and supervise all such
    training.

4. The library will train Young Adult Department staff in general computer
    assistance and homework helps.
    This was achieved during formal staff trainings.

5. Three formal staff training sessions will be held.
    These sessions were held during the year. Training included the Young
    Adult Department as well as the children's department.

6. The library will provide computer assistance in larger computer labs.
    Because of unexpected personnel changes, this goal was projected to
    next year. See objectives for 2006.

In addition to the above objectives, the following progress was made in technology:

1. Thanks to a grant from the State Library, wireless access is now available at
    the following branches: St. George, Santa Clara, Enterprise, Hurricane, and
    Springdale.
2. Problems with the self-check system have been somewhat stabilized this
    past year, although the system has indicated some stages of aging.

2006 objectives:

1. The library will evaluate all children's computer equipment and the performance of the equipment at the Branch Libraries.
    a. This objective is somewhat changed since new branches are currently being planned for completion at Springdale, New Harmony, and St. George. It is anticipated that any necessary changes will be considered with the new construction.
    b. It is anticipated that a new 5-year plan will be initiated next year to make any necessary corrections.
2. The library will update all of the children's equipment to meet necessary needs.
    (see comments above)

3. The library will teach Computer Basics courses to patrons on an on-going basis.
    a. Basic computer literacy courses will continue.
    b. Training courses for computer access to data bases located on Pioneer will be initiated.
4. The Library will continue to provide formal and informal staff training.
    a. Basic computer literacy courses will continue.
    b. Training courses for computer access to data bases located on Pioneer will be initiated.

In addition to the above objectives, the following objectives will be added.

1. A new technology plan will be developed for 2007-2010.
    a. Such a plan will be necessary since most of the libraries will have new facilities since the last plan was developed. Based upon this development, a review needs to be made of each facility to see of the technology needs are fulfilled, and
    b. Review any new or significant development needs to be added to the facility.
2. With the addition of fiber optics lines being added to the county system, which will immediately impact St. George, Hurricane, and Santa Clara, Internet access and availability needs to be considered.
3. With the anticipated T-1 line being made available to New Harmony, and with the possibility of a T-1 line added at Enterprise, their Internet access and availability needs to be reviewed.
4. The central processing unit at the St. George branch, which serves as the current home base for the county, is rapidly reaching its 5-year life. The County Technology Department is currently reviewing a plan for central location of data bases for all county technology needs. Since the county technology needs includes not only library, but also law enforcement as well as other service areas, a uniform system is being reviewed. If this option is available, then different planning processes need be considered. This will be essential for a new plan.